



## THE PRAXIS S E R I E S™

### The PRAXIS Newsletter

A Newsletter Designed to Provide Information for PRAXIS Clients

Vol. 2, Number 1

Spring, 2006

#### *News and Updates:*

##### *A New Face...*

We are very pleased to announce that Don Williams has joined us as Group Executive Director of the Teacher Quality Group. The Teacher Quality Group consists of the Praxis Client Relations Directors, the Praxis Business Directors, and the Business Director of the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards assessments at ETS.

Don has a very strong background in both finance and program management. At ETS, he served as program director for the Major Field Tests and the Measure of Academic Proficiency and Progress assessments; has led the establishment of a process to move employees to a new time reporting and payroll management system; and served as Executive Director of Finance for the Higher Education Division. Don is looking forward to meeting all of you at the client conference in April.

##### *Category Information*

As you are aware, ETS is committed to providing institutions of higher education using the Praxis assessments with individual student category information that may be interpreted with reliability and validity. IHEs use this information to assist teacher candidates who are not successful in developing study plans as well as supplying category information to accrediting agencies and/or SPAs as required.

Due to the high standards ETS has always held in providing reliable and valid data, the Praxis team is concerned about providing IHEs with this information. These concerns stem from some categories having relatively few items and category-level difficulty varying across different editions of the same test. These constraints limit the ability to make firm decisions about the instructional direction to take with individual students.

Nevertheless, ETS understands that less than ideal category information is potentially more useful to IHEs than not having any information. Therefore, we have proposed a short-term response and a long-term solution. Beginning with the September, 2006, administration, ETS will provide IHEs with the exact same level of category information that students currently receive on their score reports. That information will be accompanied by a disclaimer regarding the proper use of category information.

A long-term solution is being actively pursued by ETS psychometricians. The goal of this solution will be to provide IHEs and students with category-level information that may be interpreted meaningfully and with a high-degree of confidence. Improving the dependability of category information will be a major step forward in the field of teacher licensure testing. ETS will continue to update you on the progress of this report through regular communications.

### ***New Study Materials Released:***

We have released the General Information and Study Tips publication as a free PDF file, located at: <http://www.ets.org/Media/Tests/PRAXIS/pdf/01361generalinfo.pdf>.

This publication includes much useful information about addressing multiple choice items, using the Scoring Guides for constructed response items to study and understand how ones response will be measured, and building a study plan. In addition, we have updated and released the *Proper Use of the Praxis Series and Related Assessments* and this publication can also be found as a free PDF file in the Download Library on our Web site. Please use the link below to access it. This document will be the focus of a session at the client conference. Link:

<http://www.ets.org/Media/Tests/PRAXIS/pdf/guidelines.pdf>

### ***Institutional Summary Report Sample Online***

A sample of information contained in the Institutional Summary Report (ISR) is now available online for IHEs at:

[http://www.ets.org/Media/Tests/PRAXIS/pdf/interpreting\\_praxis\\_score\\_reports\\_51657.pdf](http://www.ets.org/Media/Tests/PRAXIS/pdf/interpreting_praxis_score_reports_51657.pdf). Here, institutions can view the various pieces of an ISR. We are hoping that by placing this information online, more IHEs will be made aware of what they are receiving from ETS, including the aggregated category information that many have asked for, unaware that they are receiving it already.

Your client relations director can provide you with a listing of the individual at each IHE who receives the ISRs currently. Please let him/her know if you would like to have this information.

### ***Praxis Reference Guide Available***

ETS has produced a Praxis Reference Guide. Available both electronically and on paper, the guide is targeted to the IHEs and the candidates they prepare. With a handy tear-off section of Top Ten Candidate Questions, workshop information, and links to many resources on our Web site, this publication has been very well received. The reference guides were distributed at the recent AACTE conference in January and were emailed to IHEs on the old Praxis IHE newsletter mailing list.

### ***Early Childhood: Content Knowledge 0022***

ETS is ready to conduct test reviews and standard setting studies on the new Early Childhood: Content Knowledge test. If you are interested in arranging for a test review, please notify your client relations director.

### ***Higher Education Faculty and Classroom Practitioners Needed for National Advisory Committees (NAC)***

Nominations for the National Advisory Committees (NACs) in the following content areas are being sought. Please consider nominating teachers and let your IHEs know that we are looking for thoughtful and knowledgeable experts to serve on NACs to review test specifications, test structure, matches to national standards, and to write test items. Please send names and contact information along with the subject or content areas that individuals are qualified to represent to your client relations director.

Special Education series of assessments

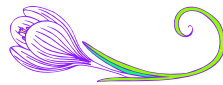
Business Ed (0100)

Marketing Ed (0560)

Speech Communication (0220)

Agriculture (OR) (0900)

School Psychologist (0400)



## *Praxis, SLS, and Parapro Testing Dates for 2006/2007*

### *Praxis*

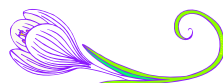
| Test  | Test Date | The Praxis Series™ Registration Deadlines |  |   |                                       | Scores by Phone | Approximate Score Report Mailing Dates |
|---|-----------|---|--|---|---------------------------------------|-----------------|--|
|   |           | Registration MUST be received by          | Late Registration MUST be received by (with \$40 late fee) | Centers Outside U.S. or in U.S. Territories | Monday Centers in U.S. or Puerto Rico |                 |  |
| <b>All Tests Offered</b><br>(except Teaching Foundations and PPST®) | 09/16/06* | 08/10/06                                  | 08/17/06   | 07/20/06                                    | 08/03/06                              | 10/13/06        | 10/17/06                               |
| <b>All Tests Offered</b>  | 11/18/06  | 10/19/06                                  | 10/26/06   | 09/21/06                                    | 10/05/06                              | 12/15/06        | 12/19/06                               |
| <b>All Tests Offered</b>  | 01/13/07* | 12/14/06                                  | 12/21/06   | 11/16/06                                    | 11/30/06                              | 02/09/07        | 02/13/07                               |
| <b>All Tests Offered</b><br>(except PPST®)                          | 03/03/07  | 02/01/07                                  | 02/08/07   | 01/04/07                                    | 01/18/07                              | 03/30/07        | 04/03/07                               |
| <b>All Tests Offered</b><br>(except Teaching Foundations)           | 04/28/07* | 03/29/07                                  | 04/05/07   | 03/01/07                                    | 03/15/07                              | 05/25/07        | 05/29/07                               |
| <b>All Tests Offered</b><br>(except PPST®)                          | 06/09/07* | 05/10/07                                  | 05/17/07   | 04/12/07                                    | 04/26/07                              | 07/06/07        | 07/10/07                               |
| <b>All Tests Offered</b><br>(except Teaching Foundations)           | 08/04/07  | 07/05/07                                  | 07/12/07   | 06/07/07                                    | 06/21/07                              | 08/31/07        | 09/04/07                               |

### *SLS*

| Test                                       | Test Date | School Leadership Series Registration Deadlines |  |   |                                       | Scores by Phone | Approximate Score Report Mailing Dates |
|--|-----------|---|--|---|---------------------------------------|-----------------|--|
|  |           | Registration MUST be received by                | Late Registration MUST be received by (with \$40 late fee) | Centers Outside U.S. or in U.S. Territories | Monday Centers in U.S. or Puerto Rico |                 |  |
| <b>School Leaders Licensure Assessment</b> | 09/16/06* | 08/10/06  | 08/17/06   | 07/20/06                                    | 08/03/06                              | 10/13/06        | 10/17/06                               |
| <b>School Superintendent Assessment</b>    | 11/18/06  | 10/19/06  | 10/26/06   | 09/21/06                                    | 10/05/06                              | 12/15/06        | 12/19/06                               |
| <b>School Leaders Licensure Assessment</b> | 01/13/07* | 12/14/06  | 12/21/06   | 11/16/06                                    | 11/30/06                              | 02/09/07        | 02/13/07                               |
| <b>School Superintendent Assessment</b>    | 04/28/07* | 03/29/07  | 04/05/07   | 03/01/07                                    | 03/15/07                              | 05/25/07        | 05/29/07                               |
| <b>School Leaders Licensure Assessment</b> | 06/09/07* | 05/10/07  | 05/17/07   | 04/12/07                                    | 04/26/07                              | 07/06/07        | 07/10/07                               |

## ***ParaPro***

| <i>Test Date</i> | <b>ParaPro Assessment Registration Deadlines</b> |   |  |  | <b>Approximate<br/>Score Report<br/>Mailing Dates</b> |
|------------------|--|---|--|--|---|
|                  | <b>Registration<br/>MUST be<br/>received by</b>  | <b>Late<br/>Registration<br/>MUST be<br/>received by<br/>(with \$40 late<br/>fee)</b> | <b>Centers<br/>Outside U.S.<br/>or in U.S.<br/>Territories</b> | <b>Monday<br/>Centers in<br/>U.S. or<br/>Puerto<br/>Rico</b> |   |
| 09/16/06*        | 08/10/06   | 08/17/06  | 07/20/06   | 08/03/06   | 10/17/06  |
| 01/13/07*        | 12/14/06   | 12/21/06  | 11/16/06   | 11/30/06   | 02/13/07  |
| 03/03/07         | 02/01/07   | 02/08/07  | 01/04/07   | 01/18/07   | 04/03/07  |
| 06/09/07*        | 05/10/07   | 05/17/07  | 04/12/07   | 04/26/07   | 07/10/07  |



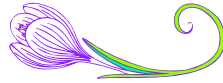
## ***Monthly Focus***

### ***Teacher Guidance and Evaluation Tool Ready to Pilot***

Over the past eighteen months, we have been sharing information with our clients about the development of a non-academic assessment to measure teacher dispositions. Researchers in the New Constructs Group of the ETS Research Division have been examining teacher attitudes, beliefs and dispositions for many years. They have developed a self-report survey of teacher dispositions aligned to the INTASC Principles. As you are well aware, measuring teacher dispositions is something that institutions are required to do as part of their NCATE accreditation process. Some institutions who do not utilize this process are also interested in having some way to measure their own effectiveness in teaching dispositions to their candidates. ETS has recently moved forward in collaborating with the AACTE to create a survey instrument to measure teacher dispositions.

We are approaching the pilot stage of this work and would like to extend an invitation to your IHEs to participate. The pilot is web-delivered and takes about 60-90 minutes to complete the survey, demographic information, and feedback. We are looking for teacher candidates at different stages of their studies, from just starting their teacher preparation program through completing student teaching. The pilot can be completed any time from

mid -April to early May, and participants will receive \$25. We would greatly appreciate your making your IHEs aware of this pilot opportunity and we hope that they will be interested in participating. For more information or to register, please contact Micheala Arzt at: [participate@ets.org](mailto:participate@ets.org).

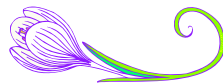


### ***Teacher Quality Client Conference***

By now, you should have received your electronic invitation to this year's annual client conference, which will be held at the Chauncey Conference Center on the ETS grounds. The Teacher Quality Group is very excited that you will be our guests for three days and we have planned what we hope you will find to be a very informative and interesting program. Please respond to the state information sheet that you will receive shortly so that we can include information your information in the state update section of the conference binders.

Carol Hawkes is again arranging logistical details for us and you should make your travel arrangements through the instructions that Carol provided. Carol can help you with any additional concerns or questions regarding logistics.

Carol has moved into a full-time conference planning role for the Client Relations Group of the Higher Education Division. Please direct any questions that you may previously have directed to Carol in the absence of your client relations director to our client relations specialist, Chris Karatka at [ckaratka@ets.org](mailto:ckaratka@ets.org) or 609-683-2005.



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